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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application of :
Yoshihiro YAMASHITA et al. :
Serial No. 10/090,077 : Group Art Unit - 3652
Filed: March 1, 2002 : Examiner - Dean J. Kramer
For: VACUUM APPARATUS AND :
TRANSFER APPARATUS : Docket No. S004-4672

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MS FEE AMENDMENT
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED
MAR 16 2004

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME
AND REQUIRED EXTENSION FEE

GROUP 3600

S I R:

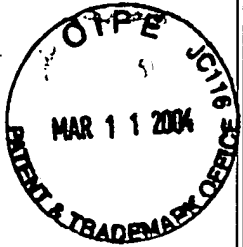
Applicants respectfully request a three-month extension of time for replying to the Office Action dated September 9, 2003 and request that the period for taking further action be reset to expire on March 9, 2004. This is an extension request for replying to the September 9, 2003 Office Action within the third month pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

The reason for the present request is to provide additional time to study the September 9, 2003 Office Action and take appropriate action in response thereto.

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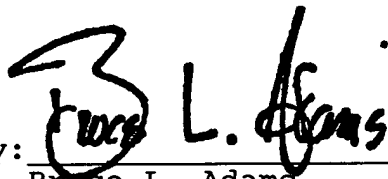
950.00 OP



A check in the amount \$950.00 is enclosed herewith to cover the required fee. Should the check prove insufficient for any reason, authorization is hereby given to charge any such insufficiency to Deposit Account No. 01-0268.

Respectfully submitted,

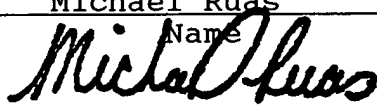
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MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS FEE AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Michael Ruas
Name

Signature
March 9, 2004
Date